

Message Text

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73-40

ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 MED-03 ABF-01 SNM-02 SSO-00 /031 W
----- 125012

R 301245Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5208

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

UNCLAS SINGAPORE 2181

FOR DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY EAGLEBURGER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AMED, SN

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT SUPPORT FOR SINGAPORE COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

REFS: (A) STATE 101184; (B) SINGAPORE 2178 (C) SINGAPORE 2031;
(D) KUALA LUMPUR 2110

1. I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RECENT EAST ASIAN COMMUNITY ACTION CONFERENCE HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR (REF D). IN MY COMMENT ON THESE RECOMMENDATIONS (REF C) I SAID IT WAS EXCEPTIONALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE USG PROVIDE SUSTAINED ORGANIZATIONAL AND DOLLAR SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS OVERSEAS. AS YOU MAY BE AWARE WE HAVE RECENTLY EXPERIENCED A DRUG CRISIS AMONG AMERICAN TEEN-AGE YOUTHS IN SINGAPORE, AND HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR OUR COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (PARTIALLY FUNDED BY USG), WE WOULD HAVE HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY IN COPING WITH IT. THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND THE AMERICAN SCHOOL ARE VERY MUCH IN THE PUBLIC EYE, AND UNLESS WE CAN CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS OF DRUG ABUSE AMONG AMERICAN TEEN-AGERS ON A SUSTAINED BASIS, IT COULD EVENTUALLY HAVE AN ADVERSE IMPACT ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS.

2. IN REF B, EMBASSY HAS SUBMITTED ITS REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AND FY-77. I BELIEVE THAT THE SINGAPORE
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PROGRAM AS WELL AS OTHER COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS

ELSEWHERE ARE HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO BOTH THE U.S. IMAGE
AND OUR INTERESTS OVERSEAS AND DESERVE A HIGH PRIORITY IN
ALLOCATION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES. THE BENEFIT WE RECEIVE BY
PROVIDING SUSTAINED SUPPORT FOR THESE PROGRAMS FAR OUTWEIGHTS
THE MINIMAL COST INVOLVED.
HOLDRIDGE

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